

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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For Immediate Release: Aug. 21, 2008

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DEQ switches to EnviroFlash for Ozone Action Day notification

BATON ROUGE – EnviroFlash, a service that provides air quality index information via e-mail or mobile text, is now available to many residents of Louisiana. While Louisiana's air quality has continued to improve in recent years, areas of the state occasionally experience air pollution levels that may pose a potential health risk for some people. EnviroFlash allows individuals across Louisiana to adjust their daily activities when poor air conditions are expected.

The free EnviroFlash service, to which citizens can subscribe, is now available for the Baton Rouge, Shreveport and New Orleans areas. Residents enroll on-line and select the health level at which they want to receive notices. Air quality is predicted for ground-level ozone pollution, and when an Ozone Action Day is called, notices are sent to subscribers. This is an Environmental Protection Agency program provided in conjunction with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality.

"Thousands of Louisiana citizens – especially those in sensitive populations – will benefit greatly from this groundbreaking service," said Lou Buatt, DEQ Assistant Secretary. "EnviroFlash's innovative use of technology provides timely information for people that are affected by air quality. EnviroFlash helps people take steps to protect their health – and it's available free to anyone who wants to sign up."

If you are interested in receiving daily air quality messages or just receiving Ozone Action Day notifications, you can sign up at:

- http://batonrougearea.enviroflash.info
- http://shreveportarea.enviroflash.info
- http://neworleansarea.enviroflash.info

For more information on air quality and EnviroFlash go to the DEQ website http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/Default.aspx?tabid=2880 or the AirNow website http://airnow.enviroflash.info.